IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A gland packing material wherein said gland packing material ~~is configured by~~ comprises a cord[[-like]] member (40) which is formed by stranding a ~~strip-like~~ base strip member (4), or winding a ~~strip-like~~ base strip member (4) about a longitudinal direction, or winding a ~~strip-like~~ base strip member (4) about a longitudinal direction and then stranding said base strip member,

said base strip member (4) comprises: a reinforcing member (20) ~~configured by~~ comprised of a fibrous material (2); and ~~a strip-like~~ an expanded graphite strip (3),

said reinforcing member (20) is disposed at least on one face of said ~~strip-like~~ expanded graphite strip (3), and

both said reinforcing member (20) and said ~~strip-like~~ expanded graphite strip (3) are placed on an outer peripheral surface of said cord[[-like]] member (40).

Claim 2 (currently amended): A gland packing material according to claim 1, wherein one side end edge of said base strip member (4) is placed on an outer peripheral surface of said cord[[-like]] member (40)[[,]] in the side end edge, one member (4a) of said reinforcing member (20) and said ~~strip-like~~ expanded graphite strip (3) is more elongated in a width direction than another member (4b), and

[[while]] said one member (4a) which is elongated in the width direction is placed on an inner side, and said other member (4b) which is short in the width direction is placed on an outer side, said base strip member (4) is stranded, or said base strip member (4) is stranded after said base strip member is wound about the longitudinal direction, whereby said reinforcing member (20) and said ~~strip-like~~ expanded graphite strip (3) are placed in a spiral manner to be alternately arranged in an axial direction on the outer peripheral surface of said cord[[-like]] member (40).

Claim 3 (currently amended): A gland packing material according to claim 1, wherein said reinforcing member (20) is formed to be smaller in width than said ~~strip-like~~ expanded graphite strip (3),

a plurality of said reinforcing members (20) are disposed at least on one face of said ~~strip-like~~ expanded graphite strip (3) with ~~forming~~ intervals formed therebetween in [[the]] a width direction, and

[[while]] said [[small-]] smaller in width reinforcing members (20) are placed on an outer side, said base strip member (4) is stranded, or said base strip member (4) is stranded after said base strip member is wound about the longitudinal direction, whereby said reinforcing members (20) and said ~~strip-like~~ expanded graphite strip (3) are ~~placed~~ wound in a spiral manner to be alternately arranged in an axial direction on the outer peripheral surface of said cord[[-like]] member (40).

Claim 4 (currently amended): A gland packing material according to claim 1, wherein said base strip member (4) is stranded about an intermediate portion in a width direction of said base strip member (4), or said base strip member (4) is stranded after said base strip member is wound about the longitudinal direction in an intermediate portion in the width direction of said base strip member (4), thereby causing both side end edges of said base strip member (4) to be positioned on an outer peripheral surface of said cord[[-like]] member (40),

in one of said side end edges, said reinforcing member (20) is placed on an outer side, and, in another side end edge, said ~~strip-like~~ expanded graphite strip (3) is placed on an outer side, whereby said reinforcing member (20) and said ~~strip-like~~ expanded graphite strip (3) are placed in a spiral manner to be alternately arranged in an axial direction on the outer peripheral surface of said cord[[-like]] member (40).

Claim 5 (currently amended): A gland packing material according to claim 1, wherein said reinforcing member (20) is placed on the outer peripheral surface of said cord[[-like]] member (40),

a large number of openings (20A) are formed in said reinforcing member (20),

said ~~strip-like~~ expanded graphite strip (3) enters said openings (20A), and is exposed from the outer peripheral surface of said cord[[-like]] member (40) through said openings (20A).

Claim 6 (currently amended). A gland packing material according to claim 1, wherein said reinforcing member (20) is disposed only on one face of said ~~strip-like~~ expanded graphite strip (3).

Claim 7 (currently amended): A gland packing material according to claim 1, wherein said reinforcing member (20) is disposed on both faces of said ~~strip-like~~ expanded graphite strip (3).

Claim 8 (currently amended): A gland packing material according to claim 1, wherein said fibrous material (2) is formed into a sheet[[-like]] shape, and said fibrous material sheet ~~is configured by~~ comprises a fiber-opened sheet (2B) in which multifilament yarns are opened in a sheet[[-like]] shape.

Claim 9 (original): A gland packing material according to claim 8, wherein a thickness of said fiber-opened sheet (2B) is set to 10 μm to 300 μm.

Claim 10 (currently amended). A gland packing material according to claim 1, wherein said fibrous material (2) ~~is configured by one or two or more~~ comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of carbon fibers, ~~and other~~ brittle fibers, and tough fibers.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A gland packing material according to claim 10, wherein said brittle fibers ~~are configured by one or two or more~~ comprise at least one selected from the group consisting of glass fibers, silica fibers, and ceramic fibers.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A gland packing material according to claim 10, wherein said tough fibers ~~are configured by one or two or more~~ comprise at least one selected from the group consisting of metal fibers, aramid fibers, and PBO fibers.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A gland packing ~~wherein~~ comprising braiding or winding together a plurality of gland packing materials (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 12 ~~are used, and braided or twisted~~.